

May 12, 2011

Gallatin County School District
District Facilities Plan Hearing Report

A public hearing was held at the Gallatin County Middle School Library on May 11, 2011 at 5:45 p.m. The purpose of the public hearing was to propose a new District Facility Plan developed by the Gallatin County Local Planning Committee. The Local Planning Committee (LPC) voted 13-0 in favor of the proposed new plan and the Board voted 3-0 at the April 25, 2011 to approve the new plan.

They were 18 persons present at the hearing exclusive of the hearing officer. Leonard Whalen, Deputy Superintendent, served as the locally-appointed hearing officer. Attached is sign in sheet of those present.

COMMENTS

Leonard Whalen called the public hearing to order. The hearing officer outlined the purpose of the hearing and the hearing procedures in accordance with 702 KAR 1:0001. It was explained that should persons wishing to speak would be given the opportunity and that written statements would be accepted. All considerations will be made available to the Kentucky Board of Education via the hearing officer's report. The hearing officer read the proposed new District Facility Plan which includes:

Capital Construction Priorities

- Gallatin County High School Renovations - \$525,000
- New Gallatin County Alternative School/Fieldhouse – \$1,290,865
- New Central Bus Garage/Maintenance/Storage Facility - \$1,812,974
- New Central Office - \$2,722,973

District Unmet Need

- Completion of Athletic Field Work - \$750,000
- New Gallatin County Fieldhouse - \$1,261,096

The floor was opened to those who wished to make a statement:

- Jack Webster – District Unmet Needs – Question: Will the state finance this need? John Gilbert answered as to priorities. Webster asked if HS roof was the next thing to be funded. Gilbert answered yes and explained process of priorities 1-4. Whalen stated 1st priority is HS roof, 2nd Alternative School/Field House, 3rd Central Bus Garage. Webster stated he backs recommendation 100% as he knows roof needs work. Webster stated his concern is Alternative School Field/House being placed in priority above Bus Garage. He said the kids need to be taken care of, but if kids can't be transported to school, what good will the buildings do them? Whalen stated the state looks at needs for students above other facilities. Whalen stated the kids must be taken care of first. Webster stated the field house is his main concern. He doesn't understand why an athletic facility takes precedence over other buildings.
- Whalen stated the way the committee looked at the plan, if student instructional facilities are not placed first, they wouldn't accept plan. Whalen stated the prior facilities director was very

aware of the bus garage situation. Webster asked committee to consider the bus garage not being a priority.

- Steve Zimmer – asked about separation of Alternative School/Field House and why it was separated. Discretionary is where Field House is actually budgeted.
- Hargis Davis – Questioned Capital Construction Priorities (regardless of schedule). John Gilbert responded with explanation of Priorities 1-4. Explained classifications. Regardless of Schedule – Priority 4 – Bus Garage – Discussed Priority 5 Discretionary Construction Projects – HS Athletic Fields and Fieldhouse.

Regardless of Schedule means this can happen at any particular time but funding is necessary to proceed. If funding is available, you can proceed. Davis asked what percentage of #4 comes from the state. Gilbert stated he did not know.

- Jessica Wheeler – asked if the Alternative School/Field House is two separate buildings? Gilbert/Whalen said Fieldhouse should be down at the bottom, but technical will be one building, but may be finished in stages if funding is not available. Wheeler stated men's lives are in danger every day due to condition of bus garage.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the new District Facility Plan developed by the Gallatin County Local Planning Committee and adopted by the Gallatin County Board of Education be approved as the District Facility Plan for the Gallatin County School District. A copy of the new plan is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard Whalen
Deputy Superintendent

Cc: Tim Lucas
Public Hearing Agenda
Planning File

Attachments: Gallatin County School District Facility Plan